Chapter 48

LIBRARY*

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ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

Sec. 48-1. Established.

The act of the legislature entitled "An Act authorizing the City of Lewiston to accept donations of money and property to establish and maintain a Free Public Library in Lewiston and to accept conveyances of land for a site there," approved February 20, 1901, is hereby accepted. The trustees provided for in this act shall be known as the trustees of the Free Public Library of Lewiston.

(Code 1982, § 16-1)

State law references: Authority for a town to establish a free public library, 27 M.R.S.A. § 101; municipal authority to accept gifts and devices, 27 M.R.S.A. § 109.

Sec. 48-2. Failure to return library property.

It shall be unlawful for any person to retain any book, pamphlet, magazine, newspaper, manuscript, or other property belonging to the Lewiston Public Library for a period exceeding 15 days after such library has given written notice to return the same. Such notice shall be given in accordance with the library policy on overdue materials.

(Code 1982, § 16-4)

Secs. 48-3--48-20. Reserved.

ARTICLE II. BOARD OF TRUSTEES*

*Cross references: Boards, commissions, committees and bureaus, § 2-151 et seq.

Sec. 48-21. Membership, vacancies on board of trustees.

- (a) In accordance with the provisions of the act mentioned in section 48-1, the board of trustees shall consist of ten members of whom the mayor, ex officio, shall be one, and the remaining nine members shall be such other suitable persons as the mayor may select; provided, however, that all members shall be residents of the city. All non ex-officio members shall serve a term of three years. Members of the board of trustees shall not be eligible to serve for more than three full successive terms. The terms of office of members of the board of trustees appointed following the adoption of the amendment of this Code shall be established by the mayor who shall appoint one member to serve a one-year term; one member to serve a two-year term; and one member to serve a three-year term. Thereafter, all members shall be appointed for three-year terms.
- (b) After the first election, the vacancies occurring annually in the board of trustees under the provisions of the act shall be filled by the mayor in January of each year, and in case of a vacancy during the year, the mayor shall select a successor for the residue of the term. In case a member of the board of trustees is elected to and accepts the office of mayor, his office as trustee shall be vacated and such vacancy shall be filled as above provided.

(Code 1982, § 16-2; Ord. No. 04-01, 2-19-04; Ord. No. 05-19, 12-15-05; Ord. No. 07-04, 5-17-07; Ord. No. 11-12, 12-15-11)

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Sec. 48-22. Responsibilities.

- (a) The board shall act in an advisory capacity for the purpose of providing assistance to other municipal officials charged with the responsibility of furnishing quality public library service, except that the trustees shall have the authority to decide policy as to the following:
 - (1) Identification and promotion of general library objectives;
 - (2) Establishing the character and quality of books and other materials to be contained in the library collection;
 - (3) Promoting cooperation with other libraries;
 - (4) Providing effective programs and services to schools and other specialized groups in need of library service; and
 - (5) Establishing and supporting cultural programs sponsored by the library.
- (b) The board may receive such property or other valuables as may be left to the library and shall advise the library director about their retention, sale or disposition. The retention, sale or disposition of any property or valuables shall be subject to the approval of the city administrator and the City Council, with regard to expenditures, in accordance with existing city policies.
- (c) The trustees may solicit and receive cash donations made to the library to be used for library purposes. They shall advise the library director as to the investment and use of such funds, such use to be in accordance with any conditions imposed by the donor. They may also solicit and accept donations to the library's permanent endowment fund and advise the library director as to the investment and use of the endowment in accordance with existing city policies. The expenditure of any donated funds shall be subject to the approval of the city administrator and/or designee, and the City Council where appropriate, who shall ensure that applicable policies are adhered to.
- (d) The trustees may authorize the library director to apply for and accept grants to the extent that such grants do not require a cash match from the City or the commitment of City resources in future years. Where such match is required or future resources must be committed, the trustees may request that the City Council authorize and accept such grants.
- (e) Whenever a vacancy occurs in the position of library director, the trustees shall act in an advisory capacity and assist the city administrator in the selection of a new director.

(Code 1982, § 16-3; Ord. No. 01-5, 5-3-01; Ord. No. 11-12, 12-15-11)